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Message Text

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44
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 /092 W
---------- 032369
P 141714Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3346
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NY
CINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
FOSIF ROTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, AG, MO, MA, SP,SS
SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA: ALGERIAN REACTION TO MADRID ACCORD

1. ALGERIAN REACTION TO NOVEMBER 14 ANNOUNCEMENT IN MADRID OF SPANISH-MOROCCAN-MAURITANIAN ACCORD ON SAHARA'S FUTURE OUTWARDLY CALM. RADIO REPORTED NEWS BRIEFLY AND WITHOUT COMMENT AT 1300Z.
2. FOREIGN JOURNALIST WHO SOUGHT REACTION FROM ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY FOUND THAT OFFICE IN DISARRAY AND OBVIOUSLY NOT YET PREPARED TO TAKE POSITION. OFFICIAL NEWS SERVICE COMMENTARY PUBLISHED MORNING NOV. 14 AND ENTITLED "ILLUSORY BARGAINING" HAD WARNED SPAIN, IN EFFECT, THAT A DEAL WOULD BE CONTRARY TO ITS INTERESTS IN REGION.

3. IN CONVERSATION NOV. 13, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL
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SPECULATED THAT SPANISH-MOROCCAN DEAL HAD IN FACT BEEN

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IN EXISTENCE FOR SOME TIME AND THAT APPARENT TOUGHENING OF SPANISH LINE CIRCA NOV. 1 HAD BEEN LESS SIGNIFICANT THAN APPEARED AT TIME. IF THERE HAD BEEN NO DEAL, OFFICIAL ASKED RHETORICALLY, WHY DID SPANISH ALLOW GREEN MARCHERS TO ENTER SAHARA. FRONTIER JUST AS DEFENSIBLE AS LINE OF DISCUSSION, OFFICIAL CONTENDED, AND ONLY REASON FOR SPANISH MILITARY PULLBACK SEEMED TO BE TO GIVE KING HASSAN GROUNDS FOR DECLARING VICTORY AND GOING HOME.

4. AT 1530 LOCAL I ASKED DIRECTOR OF EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS (ABERKANE) ABOUT REPORTED AGREEMENT. HE SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD OF IT (HE IS OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR SPANISH AFFAIRS, AMONG OTHERS) AND THAT HE DOUBTED THERE WOULD BE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE UN (WE HAVE VERY FEW DETAILS BUT UNDERSTAND AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR "TRIPARTITE" ADMINISTRATION OF TERRITORY AND THAT THERE NO MENTION OF UN ROLE). HE SAID SPANIARDS FULLY AWARE OF ALGERIAN POSITION AND HE DOUBTED THEY WOULD GO BACK ON THEIR SOLEMN WORD OR DO ANYTHING SO BLUNT.

5. PRESS NOV. 14 ANNOUNCED THAT F POLISARIO WOULD BEGIN PUBLISHING A NEWSPAPER, FREE SAHARA, THREE TIMES A WEEK. PRESS CARRIED EXTRACTS FROM FREE SAHARA'S FIRST EDITION WHICH DESCRIBED CLASHES BETWEEN POLISARIO GUERRILLAS AND MOROCCAN ARMY IN NORTHEASTERN SAHARA. ARTICLE CLAIMED THAT 9 COMPANIES UNDER LIBERATION AND UNITY FRONT (FLU) COVER, 2 REGULAR ARMY BATTALIONS, MARINE AND PARATROOP UNITS, 105 MM ARTILLERY, FRENCH SA 300 HELICOPTERS AND BROUSSARD RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN COMMITTED TO FRAY BY MOROCCANS. MOROCCAN OBJECTIVE SAID TO BE TO ADVANCE TO TIFARITI ON SAHARAN-MAURITANIAN BORDER THEREBY CUTTING EASTERN END OF COLONY IN HALF. PARKER

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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